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Mythcon 51: The Mythic, the Fantastic, and the Alien

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ABOUT OUR CONTRIBUTORS

L.C. Atencio holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Creative Writing from the University of Central Florida, with scholarly emphasis on illustrating literary works. Atencio's poems, "Believing in words, not in whoever," and "Staring through the cracks of reality," were published in 2012 in *Nota Bene*, an anthology by The Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. He has edited and judged college journals such as *Phoenix Magazine*, *The Cypress Dome*, and *The Florida Review*. His poetry and short stories have been published internationally in *Westview*, *Perspectives*, *Taj Mahal Review*, *The Penwood Review*, *The Storyteller*, *Space and Time Magazine*, *Grey Sparrow Press* and others. His illustrations have been featured in college magazines such as *Aries: A Journal of Art and Literature*. Atencio is proud to be an experimental novelist for the everyday person, and a book illustrator. To get in touch, he may be contacted at <http://creativewriter0.wix.com/lcatencio>.

Kevan Bowkett has been in the Canadian Reserves, washed dishes, planted trees, sold door-to-door, slept in an igloo, and run for Parliament. He's lectured at universities on the international arms trade, helped draft an International Convention on New Technologies, and worked in a daycare. His work has appeared in *Mythprint* and the *Manitoba Eco-Journal*, and he is currently working on a novel and short story collection set in the fabled land of Cothirya.

Ron Boyer is a scholar, teacher, and award-winning poet, fiction author and screenwriter. He is currently an M. A. candidate in Depth Psychology at Sonoma State University in Rohnert Park, California, where he taught his first university course, "Mythic Structure in Storytelling (TM)", a creative writing course grounded in the archetypal theories of Carl G. Jung, Joseph Campbell, and others (syllabus available at www.sonoma.academia.edu/RonaldLBoyer). While completing his graduate studies, Boyer presented an academic paper, "Introduction to the Mythic Orphan: Archetypal Origins of the Hero in Mythology, Literature and Film," at the first Symposium for the Study of Myth, co-sponsored by Pacifica Graduate Institution, OPUS Archives and the Joseph Campbell Foundation. He will begin doctoral studies this Fall in the PhD in Art and Religion program at the Graduate Theological Union and UC Berkeley.

Boyer is also a recent graduate of the Professional Program in Screenwriting at UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television. A widely published author, his poetry has been featured in the peer-reviewed scholarly e-zine of the Jungian and depth psychology community, *Depth Insights: Seeing the World with Soul* (Issues 3 and 5, Fall 2012 and 2013), in *Mythic Passages: A Magazine of the Imagination* (Jan. 2008) and many other publications. His interview with the Hungarian myth-maker and shaman, Ivan Szendro, has been accepted for publication in the forthcoming issue of the peer-reviewed journal, *Coreopsis: Journal of Myth and Theatre* (Spring/Summer 2014, Issue 3).

C. F. Cooper. A passion for mythic storytelling led C.F. Cooper on a months-long journey through Mexico and South America in search of the roots of magical realism, followed by a nearly decade-long stint as a writer and editor for Marvel Comics, where myth still breathes. Subsequent travels took him from Ngorongoro in the heart of east Africa, to the foot of Uluru

in Australia, to the heights of the Himalayan mountains, always seeking the elusive insights that gods are made of. His book of original mythology, *Songs of the Metamythos* (www.SongsOfTheMetamythos.com), is the culmination of those journeys; “The Gift” is excerpted from that work, Cooper’s first book.

Raquel Finol was born in Maracaibo, Venezuela, in November, 1963. She is an Architect from the University of Zulia (LUZ), Venezuela, and has also been recognized as an Interior Designer, Graphic Designer and Photographer. In her career, she has garnered well known National and International awards.

Raquel worked as an architect from 1990 until 2006 at the Governor’s Office of the State of Zulia, Department of Public Works Project, where she worked as a designer and inspector, in the areas of Security and Defense, Health Dispensaries, Government Offices, Religion, Recreation and finally in Education, which reflected her art through paintings and sculptures, which earned her several awards for their creativity and design skills, expressing her art through paintings, sculptures and logos. She may be contacted at www.RaquelFinol.com.

Gwenyth Hood was born in White Plains, NY, but moved with her family to Brandon, Vermont at the age of seven. She developed a love of reading and writing at an early age, discovering some favorite authors—Rudyard Kipling, Shakespeare, and J. R. R. Tolkien—at roughly the same time, in early adolescence. In 1982, her first novel, *The Coming of the Demons*, was published by William Morrow. She has been the editor of *The Mythic Circle* all the years of this millennium and a few more. She teaches English at Marshall University and is trying to market her Science Fiction trilogy, *Exiles from Distant Stars*, which she recently finished.

Adam V. Massimiano graduated from the University of Redlands Johnston Center for Integrative Studies with an emphasis entitled “Mythology in Modern Fiction.” Currently based in southern California, his work centers around classical mythology, identity, and queer themes. This is his first published work.

Ryder Miller is the editor of *From Narnia to a Space Odyssey*, co-writer of *San Francisco: A Natural History*, and author of *Tales of Suspense and Horror*. Also to be published in 2015 is *Tales of Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow*. He has published stories, reviews, and articles, in *Mythic Circle*, *Mythprint*, and *Beyond Bree*. He thinks of Mars as a wilderness that should be explored, appreciated, and protected.

Joseph Murphy is a professional editor and writer who lives in Michigan. He has had poetry published in a number of journals, including *The Gray Sparrow*, *Pure Francis* and *The Sugar House Review*. Murphy is also a poetry editor for an online literary publication, *Halfway Down the Stairs*.

Chelsi Robichaud is a 21 year old English student residing in Ottawa. In her free time she enjoys blogging and playing the harp.

Nicolo Santilli is a philosopher, poet, and fiction writer, living in Berkeley, California. He is currently in the beginning stages of writing his first in a series of epic fantasy novels, which have been living and growing in him for many years.

David Sparenberg is author of the eco-spirituality ebook *LIFE in the AGE of EXTINCTIONS*, v 1& 2 and has 30 videos on YouTube based on his published writings.

William H. Wandless is a professor of English at Central Michigan University, where he teaches and writes about eighteenth-century fiction, the British Gothic novel, and American popular culture. His own speculative fiction has appeared in *Dark Realms*, *Supernatural Tales*, *BFS Journal*, *Dark Eclipse*, and several other journal.

October Williams is a homemaker. She has always loved meaningful stories and poems, and is always learning better how to write.